

Two Authentic Flamenco Nights Direct from Andalusia to Edinburgh



April sees an exciting first for Edinburgh flamenco fans – two authentic flamenco nights. Three celebrated flamenco artists direct from Seville - dancer **Charo Cala**, singer **Iván Ramos** and guitarist **Fernando de María** will be performing traditional flamenco for two nights only in Henderson's Café in the Crypt under St John's, Princes Street, an intimate venue that recalls the gypsy caves of Granada where flamenco was flourished.

The aim is to recreate an authentic Andalusian flamenco evening in Edinburgh, with dance, guitar and song. All three performers grew up in families steeped in flamenco tradition, and are among the most respected performers in Seville.

Dancer **Charo Cala's** grandfather was musician and dancer Pili de Jerez, and her father, José Cala El Poeta, played with guitar greats from contemporary flamenco including Antonio Mairena, Manuela Vargas and Mercé. She is a leading dance teacher and performer, and recently toured throughout Spain with La Reina Andaluz a dance/theatre production, directed by Carlos Gandolfo (Argentina). She has toured round the world with companies such as Flamenco Dance Company of Cristina Hoyos, including the first flamenco performances at the Opera Garnier in Paris and the opening and closing ceremonies of the Barcelona '92 Olympic Games.

Seville guitarist and composer **Fernando de María** began his studies at Seville's Conservatorio Superior de Música, where he qualified in Classical Guitar, at the same time also studying with masters of flamenco guitar including Manolo Sanlúcar, Gerardo Núñez, Pedro Sierra, Rafael Riqueni and Niño de Pura. He composed the music for the Charo Cala Flamenco Company's Para Las Seis Cuerdas (which premiered at the Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla) and Matemáticas de lo Jondo (for Seville's prestigious Lope de Vega Theatre).

Singing for **Iván Ramos** ("El Pumu") comes almost as naturally as speaking. He was into a family with its origins in Jabugo, among the bandoleros of the mountainous Sierra de Huelva. His professional career began after the family moved down to Seville where he spent two years singing at the Carbonería in the Barrio Santa Cruz, working with artists Antonio Fernández, Carlos Heredia and Luís Agujetas, among others, before moving on to sing in the internationally renowned Seville tablao Los Gallos.

He has won many awards, including first prize in the Cantes de Cádiz competition (Cante Flamenco Homenaje a Chano Lobato). An established figure on the flamenco scene in Seville, and has worked with leading renowned flamenco dancers, including Angelita Vargas. In 2011 he worked on the acclaimed **Rumba del Banquero** - a series of flamenco flashmobs in some of Seville's biggest banks in protest against the banking system - for the prize-winning documentary film **flo6x8 Cuerpo Contra Capital** (Body against capital: A flamenco musical against the economic meltdown in Spain).

The group is also offering 2 x 2 day workshops, which will be tailored to suit all skill levels.

Flamenco Guitar class (with Fernando de Maria and singer Iván Ramos)

Saturday 25 Apr – 10.00-11.30

Sunday 26 Apr – 14.00 – 15.30 (£35 early bird till 15 Apr/£40)

Flamenco Dance Class (with Charo Cala, and live singing and guitar accompaniment)

Saturday 25 Apr – 11.30 – 13.00

Sunday 26 Apr – 15.30 – 16.30 (£35 early bird till 15 Apr/£40)

At dance studio of Heriot's Centre for Sport & Exercise, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh, EH3 9HE

Fri 24 & Sat 25 Apr Fab Flamenco Nights Hendersons Café at St John's, Princes St

Tickets : £12, £10, £2 In advance www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1358190 and on the door

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s, press tickets etc, please call **Morag Neil** on **0771 288 0965** (email info@scarybiscuits.com)

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